

Bracco Italiano Club of America General Membership Meeting

DATE: Monday October 18th, 2021

7:30 eastern

Meeting called to Order 7:34pm

Roll Call: Jennifer Caban Secretary

Attendees: Jennifer Caban, Missy Bettis, Lisa Erb, Tom Harper, Lisa Moller, Amanda Inman, David Hayek, Gary Lewis, John Kavalier, Bobbi Benson, Marilyn Vinson, Allison Schultz, Aileen Pearl, Katherine Inman, Allison Mitchell, Courtney Bastian

Start of meeting/welcome: President Amanda Inman

Report of Treasurer: John Kavalier

Account balance as of the call 10/18/21 is \$24,154.14. The club is in good financial shape and the increase in balance since last reports is mainly due to membership renewals coming in over the last month.

AKC Status update

- a. Bracco is approved for the Sporting Group as of June 29th 2022
This is the official date approved by the AKC board in the august minutes. This amount of time until full recognition (vs January) is due to the amount of time the AKC needs to update their info, have superintendents notified etc.

Committees Reports

- National Specialty Planning Committee- the committee has had 3 meetings so far for planning purposes. This will be the last specialty before the breed moves into full recognition. Lisa Moller has been working on researching locations to host the event. The committee feels hosting in a centralized area of the US would be best for the attendance by members from all areas of the country. They have looked at 12-13 sites online and via calls. The committee is heavily considering Brainerd, NE at Oak Creek Hunt club. The site has a nice lodge with capacity for 100-150 attendees. It has 1000 acres of hunting land. They are waiting to hear bird costs and availability. The site cost can be negotiated depending on how much of the event is onsite. Meal costs are reasonable at \$8 for breakfast and lunch and about \$25 for dinners. The club is done with their guided hints in April so a late April early May event would be feasible. There are multiple local hotel options as well.
- David Hayek mentioned that the CA proposal was good but wanted to steer away from the extreme one side of the country as it would be harder on east coast attendees. He mentioned that after full recognition it may be a better option in conjunction with one of the larger all breed shows.

- The timeframe the committee is looking at is a Monday through Friday event so that participants have a weekend on either side for travel. With the Italian show and hunt on one end of the week and the AKC events on the other end with fun events, seminars etc. on the Wednesday. The committee is looking to add guest speakers in addition to our health clinic.
 - Dates are not yet confirmed but looking at possible times of April 25th 2022 or the week after.
 - Courtney Bastian asked why we aren't doing nationals after full recognition. The committee is trying to be considerate of hunters, as well as the area and temperatures that would be in July (after recognition) as well as the availability of birds being less later in the year.
 - Allison Schultz stated it is normal for pheasants to be available later in the year, however the club/AKC typically does not use pheasants for tests.
 - The committee is also considering looking at local NAVHDA clubs to potentially host a test on the weekend before or after our scheduled events as another option for members.
 - Allison Schultz has lots of knowledge about the test and processes-she will get connected with the Hunt Test chair Michael Herndon and possibly assist the committee.
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- Rescue Committee- currently no dogs in need of rescue or any recent efforts
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- Hunting Committee- the committee will be working on material to put on the website and social media to help in keeping this a hunting breed. Also having resources for new owners who wish to get into some form of hunting with their dog, one suggestion was setting up a mentorship program so members and owners can connect regionally with someone who might be able to help if they wish to get started.
 - Health Committee- The committee has and wants to continue to put out feelers for the types of materials and information members wish to see in regards to health. They can put out some Facebook and Instagram posts to try to develop more interest and ideas.
 - Judges Education Committee- Lisa has reached out to some of the bigger shows regarding judges' education opportunities. She has some preliminary events in the works. Committee to look at the Michigan event- now held in conjunction with the all-breed shows there. New England is doing a big Judges Ed and maybe we can get membership participation. Also looking at Palm Springs and Orlando for opportunities.
 - International Committee- The world dog show will be in Madrid 6/24-6/26 2022. There will be a large event held in France April 22-24, 2022. It is being discussed to resurrect the Dracula Transylvania show held at midnight on Halloween 2022 in the castle.
 - Report from the Italian Hunting Cup is that there was good representation and results for the Italian dogs this year.
 - Crufts will be held March 10-13, 2022. Eukenuba show in Orlando FL will be considered a qualifier. Best of Breed, Best Opposite and Best Bred By will qualify (dogs cannot compete if cropped)
 - Allison Schultz can provide more details if anyone is interested in other International events including SABI/ ENCI events.

Elections are upcoming. The positions up for election are:

President- currently Amanda Inman

Treasurer- currently John Cavalier

BOD Seat #1- currently Bobbi Benson

BOD Seat #2- currently Lisa Moller

The Nomination committee has agreed that all current officers will be put up for re-election.

If the general membership wishes to nominate anyone for one of these open positions they may do so in writing to the Secretary (Jennifer Caban cmelon22@aol.com) by November 15th 2021. Nominees must be full status members in good standing and must give their consent to be nominated.

The Newsletter has a new editor. It is being worked on and will start quarterly distribution again very soon. Any input for member brags, articles or content suggestions can be sent to Siva Aiken at siva.aiken@gmail.com

If members are interested in hosting Regional Gatherings please let the club know so that we can get info out to the membership. These can be informal get togethers, hunting days, training events or building entries at shows or other competitions.

Any Old business not addressed.

Lisa Moller asked if the club had applied with AKC to be listed as the National Parent Club. The answer is YES this was done prior to asking for full recognition. BICA is listed with AKC as the National Parent Club for the Bracco Italiano in the US. Marilyn Vinson stated we should check with Christine Weiss at AKC to be sure we are listed to communicate with the AKC Parent Club Committee. Amanda will follow up with AKC.

Any new business- none raised

Meeting Adjourned 8:36pm